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## TO THE READERS OF MODERN PHILOLOGY

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Our readers will observe that with the present issue *Modern Philology* returns to the quarterly form of publication. It was thus that the journal began in June, 1903, and continued to appear until the end of the eleventh volume in 1914. At that time, the editors felt justified in increasing the size of the journal, first to ten, and then to twelve annual issues, so arranged as to group the subject-matter in the separate sections of English, Romance Languages, German, and General Literature. Editorially the new plan was successful; and then came the war and the enormous increase in the cost of publication.

During the past three years the University of Chicago has very generously made up the large annual deficit thus incurred. But while the University will continue to support the journal with a handsome subsidy, it will henceforth be unable to meet any deficit over and above the subsidy.

Hence the return of *Modern Philology* to four annual issues of approximately one hundred and twelve pages each.

We appeal to our readers to give us their support. At no time, in our opinion, has scholarship in modern languages and literatures been in greater need of adequate media of publication. Not only is the material awaiting publication abundant, but it is increasingly of a higher grade and broader interest. In proportion as our subscriptions increase, the number of pages we publish will grow; and we therefore urge all who are interested in modern languages to lend us their active aid.

In the meantime, no change will be made in the editorial policy or in the typographical style of the journal. Our separate issues will be so planned as to give proportional space in each number to the various subjects that the journal represents. In the fourth issue of each volume we shall give also short notices of the most important books in the field of modern languages and literatures. Books are, however, accepted for review only with the understanding

that the editors reserve the right to choose from among the volumes submitted those suitable for the purposes of the journal. In this way, the editors hope to reduce the cost of *Modern Philology* without impairing its usefulness as a medium of sound and informing scholarship.

Lastly the editors have devised a plan for the publication of a series of Monographs in Modern Languages, to be issued under separate cover but in conjunction with the journal, as occasion and funds permit. It appears probable that money for this purpose will be available from private sources.

With the return, then, to the quarterly form, we couple the hope of increased usefulness and better opportunity for the publication of longer studies. The continued success of *Modern Philology* lies in the encouragement we receive from our contributors and our subscribers!